

Review of the Maternity Support Workers (MSW) education programme and development of resources for the MSW role

Fourth meeting of the Steering Group

Thursday 16th June 2022 at 10.00pm via Zoom Platform

Present:

Dawn Ferguson, Interim Assistant Director of Nursing, Workforce and Education (Co-Chair) SHSCT	DF
Fionnuala McCluskey, Midwifery Support Officer (Co-Chair) DoH	FMcC
Heather Watson, Midwifery Support Officer (attending obo Dr Dale Spence, (DOH)	HWa
Helen Weir, Head of Midwifery, NHSCT	HW
Brenda McCabe, WHSCT obo of Maureen Miller, Head of Midwifery	BMcC
Shirley Stronge, Senior Education Manager, CEC	SS
Lynn Irwin, HR Manager, Vocational Workforce Assessment Centre, SHSCT	LI
Dr Alison Little, Midwife Consultant, PHA	AL
Fiona Bradley Senior Professional Officer, Project Lead, NIPEC	FB
Linda Woods, Administrative Assistant, NIPEC (note taker)	

Apologies:- Anne Shine, HR Forum

Jenny McNeill, Lead Midwife for Education/Senior Lecturer, QUB

Agenda Item	Notes	Action by
1	Welcome and introductions DF welcomed everyone to the fourth meeting of the MSW Steering Group.	
2	Apologies Noted as above	
3	Previous notes (5 th May 2022) and associated actions Action notes of 5 th May 2022 were agreed as a correct record. All actions were noted as being completed. FB/LW to circulate the report from NHS Education for Scotland on the review of Healthcare Support Workers and the 'All Wales Maternity Support Worker Curriculum' to the Steering Group and the Working Group for additional information.	LW
4	Feedback from MSW Working Group (9 th June 2022) HW reported that the Working Group had met twice (12 th May and 9 th June) from the last Steering Group meeting. Heather Moore, (NHSCT) has joined the Working Group as a Maternity Support Worker representative. A sub group of members from the Working Group met on 5th May 2022 (ST, LI, SS and FB) to cross reference and map our work on the MSW core duties with the other UK MSW programmes and the RCM Paper - <i>The Roles and Responsibilities of MSWs (2017)</i> .	



	As a result of this mapping exercise, a number of additional MSW duties were identified, discussed and agreed within the Working Group. One outstanding MSW duty 'Rubbing up a contraction during a post-partum haemorrhage' was bought to the Steering Group for further discussion and final agreement. Three workshops have been organised with LI, ST, SS and FB in June to review and update the education units within the MSW education programme. DF thanked the Working Group for their continued effort in keeping the project	
	within the timelines.	
5	Core duties of the MSW role	
	The MSW core duties scoping tool had been sent out twice for checking and further feedback. No comments received back.	
	The following points were discussed:-	
	<i>'Rubbing up a contraction during a post-partum haemorrhage'</i> for discussion. It was agreed by the Group that this should not be included as a MSW core duty. FB to write to the Heads of Midwifery seeking confirmation on this.	FB
	The wording of 'baby' was changed to 'infant' across all documents.	
	GM to feedback with updated wording for Continuity of Midwifery Carer.	GM
	The MSW core duties within the Theatre context was discussed and their applicability to the RQF education units. Discussion took place that these duties were necessary in particular the practical skills and aseptic technique, however it was also noted that this may extend the length of the education programme. LI to explore the links and appropriateness between the core duties and the RQF units.	LI
6	Core competencies MSW's	
	FB had circulated the MSW core competencies for MSW's to the Group.	
	FMcC commented that the term 'delivery' has been superseded by the term 'birth' and the document should reflect this.	
	The Steering Group reviewed the document and agreed the changes.	
	FB to make the agreed changes and send the updated version back out the Group.	FB
7	Traffic Lights Systems Discussion took place on the MSW Traffic Light System and its value in relation to the MSW context. The Group agreed that this had been a useful tool in the beginning when the role was developed but that it was no longer required as the MSW core duties and competencies documents would be sufficient. FB to contact Heads of Midwifery to confirm their approval for the removal of the MSW Traffic Light System.	FB



	FB sought ideas from the Group on linking both the MS competencies together. Ideas such as colour coding and were suggested. The Group were asked to forward any good be used. This item to be kept on the Agenda for further disc	electronic matching examples that could	Agenda Item matching core duties and competencies	
8	Equality and Human Rights Screening Template FB had updated the Equality and Human Rights Screening Template and sent it back to the BSO Equality Assessment Centre - awaiting further feedback.			
9	Next Steps			
	The Education sub group will update the Steering Group on the outcomes form their work at the next meeting on 28 th July 2022.			
	DF closed the meeting by thanking members for their valuable input.			
10	Dates & times of future meeting	1		
	Thursday 28 th July 2022 at 10-12			
	Friday 16 th September 2022 at 10.00-12.00			
	Apologies noted for DF, AL and HW.		DF	
11	Any other Business FB encouraged the Group to accept/decline their email meeting invitations as early as possible, to establish if a quorum can be met ahead of the Steering Group meetings.			
Action		Comment	Completed, On-going	
LW to circu	late papers to SG and WG	LW	Completed	
'Rubbing u	p a contraction during a post-partum haemorrhage' to be confirmed by HoMs	FB	Completed	
GM to forw	ard wording on Continuity of Midwifery Carer	GM	Completed	
LI to explore link between MSW theatre duties units and RQF units		LI	On-going	
To recircula	ate amended MSW core competencies and core duties documents to Group	FB	Completed & under continuous review	
Discontinuation of MSW Traffic Light Systems - to seek confirmation/input with HoM		FB	Completed	
Linking of I	MSW core competencies and core duties to be kept on Agenda	LW	On-going	
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